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SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 21 June 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I wish to draw your attention to new and repeated violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus by Turkey.

As I have already mentioned in my letters of 14 and 20 June 1996, Turkish air and naval forces have been participating in military exercises off the northern coast of Cyprus since 19 June 1996. Today, however, Friday, 21 June, the intensity and the gravity of those violations has been heightened by military planes of the Turkish Air Force flying at low altitude over the inhabited area of Nicosia, at certain points crossing the buffer zone, causing alarm among the local residents and creating an atmosphere of tension. At the same time, Turkish aircraft were engaged in military exercises with live ammunition, firing at mock targets in the Pentataktylos Mountain range, north of Nicosia.

On behalf of my Government, I wish to protest most strongly against these acts of aggression by Turkey and violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus. This provocative and condemnable behaviour of Turkey is in complete disregard and violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant decisions of the Organization on the question of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 55, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nicos AGATHOCLEOUS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Cyprus
to the United Nations

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